

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 OMB-01

SAJ-01 /056 W

----- 029380

R 210956Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5820

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, HU

SUBJ: NEW HUNGARIAN MEDIA COMMENT ON SONNENFELD DEBATE

REF: BUDAPEST 1179, BUDAPEST 1222

1. APRIL 18 EDITION OF TRADE UNION DAILY NEPSZAVA CARRIED THE SECOND COMMENTARY BY HUNGARIAN MEDIA ON SONNENFELD CONTROVERSY ABOUT U.S. POLICY TOWARD EE. FIRST ARTICLE WAS REPORTED REFTELS.

2. THE NEPSZAVA COMMENTARY WAS WRITTEN AS ONE PART OF A BROADER ARTICLE ENTITLED QUOTE DETENTE AT THE CENTER OF THE AMERICAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN UNQUOTE BY JUDIT KOVES, THE PAPER'S REGULAR FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR. THE ARTICLE WAS MORE RESTRAINED IN TONE THAN THE MAGAZINE

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IN MAGYAR HIRLAP, AND RESTRICTED ITS ACCUSATIONS

TO ALLEGED U.S. VIOLATION OF THE SPIRIT OF THE HELSINKI AGREEMENTS.

3. KOVES SAID IT WAS NO ACCIDENT THAT THE SONNENFELD COMMENTS WERE LEADED TO EVANS AND NOVAK QUOTE THE WELL-KNOWN PAIR OF RIGID ANTI-DETENTE JOURNALISTS UNQUOTE EXACTLY IN THE MIDST OF THE DECISIVE PHASE OF THE PRI-MARY ELECTION CAMPAIGN. THE AUTHORS, KOVES SAID, QUOTE EXPOSED THE ALLEGED KISSINGER POLICY OF LEAVING THE CAPTIVE NATIONS OF EE TO THEIR FATE FOR THE SAKE OF DETENTE UNQUOTE WHICH IN TURN PROVOKED REAGAN AND EXTREME RIGHT-WING EMIGRE GROUPS TO ATTACK THE FORD FOREIGN POLICY.

4. ARTICLE ASSERTED THAT THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY THEN DEFENDED THEMSELVES BY QUOTE DENYING THE COMMITMENTS SEALED BY THEIR OWN HAND IN HELSINKI UNQUOTE AND STATED THAT THE U.S. WILL NEVER ACCEPT SOVIET DOMINATION OF EASTERN EUROPE.

5. KOVES CONCLUDES WITH THE QUESTION: QUOTE IT IS TIMELY TO ASK IN WHAT DIRECTION THE WINDS OF AMERICAN INTERNAL POLITICS IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN ARE LIKELY TO SWEEP U.S. FOREIGN POLICY UNQUOTE.

MUDD

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, HEGEMONY, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 BUDAPEST 1179, 76 BUDAPEST 1222  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**  

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** NEW HUNGARIAN MEDIA COMMENT ON SONNENFELD DEBATE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SOPN, HU, XH, (SONNENFELDT, HELMUT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006